Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

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O 141505Z MAY 75 FM USMISSION NATO TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1808

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: NATO

SUBJECT: DRAFT NATO SUMMIT DECLARATION

REF: A. STATE 102557 B. USNATO 2597 C. STATE 110070

SUMMARY: IN INITIAL DISCUSSION OF SUMMIT DECLARATION AT MAY
14 SPC MEETING, PEREZ (US) EMPHASIZED THAT SENIOR LEVELS
OF US GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED BRIEF, FORCEFUL SUMMIT DECLARATION
ALONG LINES CONTAINED IN DRAFT CIRCULATED BY INTERNATIONAL
SECRETARIAT. WHILE UK REP EXPRESSED PERSONAL PREFERENCE FOR
FORMAT OF IS DRAFT, MOST OTHER REPS SUPPORTED FRENCH/BELGIAN
DRAFT DECLARATION CIRCULATED BY BELGIAN PERMREP DE STAERCKE.
NOTING IMPASSE, A/SYG KASTL RECOMMENDED EARLY CONVENING OF
OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP TO DRAFT COMPROMISE TEXT. MISSION
COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION ARE SET OUT IN PARA 5. END SUMMARY.

1. A/SYG KASTL OPENED MEETING BY SAYING HE UNDERSTOOD THERE WAS A GENERAL CINSENSUS TO WORK ON BASIS OF DE STAERCKE'S DRAFT. PEREZ DISAGREED THAT SUCH CONSENSUS EXISTED. URGING THAT IS DRAFT BE STARTING POINT FOR DISCUSSION, PEREZ SAID US BELIEVES DECLARATION SHOULE MAKE CLEAR THAT SUMMIT WAS IMPORTANT SECRET SECRET

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MEETING AND NOT JUST ANOTHER SPRING MINISTERIAL. PEREZ COMMENTED IN DETAIL ON SHORTCOMINGS OF DE STAERCKE'S DRAFT POINTING OUT THAT IT MISSED OPPORTUNITY TO DEAL WITH ISSUES

NOW CONFRONTING THE ALLIANCE AND DID NOT INDICATE LEADERS EXCHANGED VIEWS ON SPECIFIC CHALLENGES. RESULTS OF SUMMIT WOULD BE CAREFULLY STUDIED AND DE STAERCKE'S DRAFT WOULD BE INTERPRETED AS EVIDENCE ALLIES WERE UNABLE TO AGREE ON SUBSTANCE. IT WAS IMPORTANT TO COMMUNICATE RESOLVE AND COHESION OF ALLIANCE TO WESTERN WORLD AND SOVIETS. RECALLING CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT IS DRAFT WOULD BE STARTING POINT, PEREZ SAID IT PROVIDED BASIS FOR BRIEF, SPECIFIC EXPRESSION OF ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY.

- 2. CANADIAN, BELGIAN, GREEK, AND TURKISH REPS, WHILE NOTING FIRMNESS OF US VIEW, SAID THEY WERE INSTRUCTED TO PROCEED ON BASIS OF DE STAERCKE'S DRAFT. DE LA FERRIERE (FRANCE) SAID HE WAS ALSO READY TO PROCEED WITH DEAN'S TEXT AND EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT NUMBER OF POINTS IN XT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR HIS AUTHORITIES TO ACCEPT. NORWEGIAN REP SUPPORTED FRENCH APPROACH. ITALIAN, DUTCH AND FRG REPS NOTED ADVANTAGES AND SHORTCOMINGS IN BOTH TEXTS BUT EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR TONE OF DRAFT PUT FORWARD BY DEAN. VILLADSEN (DENMARK) SUGGESTED DISCUSSION FOCUS ON WHAT DECLARATION SHOULD ACCOMPLISH.
- 3. LOGAN (UK), SPEAKING PERSONALLY, SUPPORTED FORMAT
 OF IS DRAFT WHICH HE SAID HAD ADVANTAGES OF APPEARING DIFFERENT
 FROM NORMAL COMMUNIQUES AND BEING READILY QUOTABLE BY THE PRESS.
 LOGAN THOUGHT CENTRAL PURPOSE OF DECLARATION SHOLD BE FIRST TO
 IMPRESS WESTERN PUBLIC OPINION WITH COHESION OF ALLIANCE AND
 SECOND TO COMMUNICATE FIRMNESS OF WESTERN PURPOSE TO SOVIETS.
 SEVERAL REPS AGREED THAT IMPACT ON PUBLIC OPINON IN WEST SHOULD
 BE CENTRAL OBJECTIVE, BUT SOME BELIEVED DEFENSIVE TONE AND
 EMPHASIS ON PROBLEMS IN PARTS OF IS DRAFT RAN COUNTRER TO THIS
 OBJECTIVE. BELGIAN AND FRENCH REPS VIGOROUSLY DEFENDED PUBLIC
 APPEARL OF DE STAERCKE'S DRAFT. BUWALDA (NETHERLANDS) SAID SPC
 APPEARED TO HAVE REACHED TRADITIONAL IMPASSE OVER LATIC AND ANGLO-SAXON APPROACHES.
- 4. PICKING UP SUGGESTION OF FRG AND CANADIAN REPS, KASTL
 PROPOSED THAT INTERESTED DELEGATIONS MEET IN OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP
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TO DERAFT THRID VERSION OF DECLARATION FOR SPC CONSIDERATION. FRENCH, BELGIAN, NETHERLANDS AND SOME OTHER REPS WERE PREPARED TO GO ALONG WITH THIS SUGGESTION ONUNDERSTANDING DEAN'S DRAFT WHOULD BE TAKEN AS BASIS FOR FURTHER WORK. PEREZ SAID HE COULD ONLY PROCEED ON BASIS OF IS DRAFT AND COLD NOT AGREE TO JOIN IN DRAFTING COMPROMISE TEXT. NOTING IMPASSE AND LIMITED TIME LEFT BEFORE SUMMIT, KASTL URGED INTERESTED DELEGATIONS CONTINUE DISCUSSION IN INFORMAL CONTACT. SPC WILL RETURN TO DISCUSSION OF DECLARATION MORNING MAY 15.

5. COMMENT: SINCE U.S. IS ESSENTIALLY ISLOATED, WE BELIEVE

THAT, TO PRESERVE INTACT AS MUCH OF U.S. DRAFT AS POSSIBLE, WE SHOULD AGREE TO JOIN IN WORKOF OPEN-ENDED GROUP, WORKING TO ASSURE THAT U.S. POINTS ARE RETAINED IN DRAFT, IN BRACKETS, NECESSARY. MEANWHILE, WE WILL NEED SUPPORT IN CAPITALS. ACCORDINGLY, RECOMMEND THAT DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZE REPRESENTATIONS SOONEST AT APPROPRIATE HIGH-LEVEL IN LONDON, BONN, OTTAWA AND ROME IN SUPPORT OF U.S. DRAFT. FURTHER, WE WILL NEED FRENCH FLEXIBILITY TO AVOID AN IMPASSE, AND, ONLY SLIGHTLY LESS UNDESIRABLE, INNUMERABLE BRACKETS. THEREFORE, RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT DISCUSS U.S. U.S. APPORACH TO DECLARATION/COMMUNIQUE WITH FRENCH EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, URGING A FRESH LOOK BY GOF AT THIS MATTER, SINCE OTHER DELEGATIONS HAVE DONFIRMED OUR SUSPICIONS THAT DE STAERCKE'S TEXT WAS DRAFTED IN PARIS. BRUCE

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